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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 18, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM PRICE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) for 5 minutes.

THROUGH FOGGY LONDON TOWN THE SUN WAS SHINING EVERYWHERE

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express sorrow and solidarity for the London subway and the bus bombing of Thursday, July 7.

I also wish to express my incredulity at the continued brazenness of the pockets of terrorists who attack non-combatants, civilians, and commuters going about their everyday lives.

Certainly, the murder of civilians for political statement did not just begin on September 11, 2001. Nearly 20 years

ago, my colleagues, October 1985, four Palestinian terrorists shot Leon Klinghoffer, a retired disabled appliance manufacturer of New York. He was peacefully celebrating his wedding anniversary on a cruise ship on the *Achille Lauro*.

They then threw him overboard in his wheelchair. He was still alive. And his wife, Marilyn, watched in horror as did all civilized people.

Today's terrorists are pursuing a distinct route. They are increasingly attacking civilians in symbolic targets, such as those of economic importance, or venues of bustling life like public transportation or entertainment, like nightclubs. From New York, Arlington, and Pennsylvania, to Morocco, Istanbul, Bali, Madrid, London, and this week in Kusadasi, a popular beach resort in Turkey, where a bomb on a tour bus killed five and wreaked havoc.

Indeed, this approach of disrupting commerce has been advocated by bin Ladin in his recent recorded speeches. In his videotaped speech to the American people last November, on the eve of the United States elections, he boasted of "The success of the bleeding until bankruptcy plan."

Well, they are failing because the markets are resilient. Markets rebounded quickly from morning jitters after the London Thursday terrorist bombing. By week's end, stock markets had more than recovered from the initial sell-off, while oil prices fell back below \$60. The markets had become injured to the effects of the terrorist attacks.

Fundamentalist terrorists are slipping in combating other so-called evils to their way of thinking. First, they think a woman's place is under wraps, both physically, financially, and figuratively. Well, today women are prominent leaders in two formerly oppressed nations. Dr. Massouda Jalal is Afghanistan's Minister of Women's Affairs. In Iraq that position is held by Narmin Othman.

Another defeat for terrorists? Some of them decry technological innovation as instruments of consumerism and capitalism. And yet even as the debris fell on Londoners, the images of the carnage were captured immediately by bystanders and even victims themselves on cell phone cameras. This is happening in Communist China too, where it is even harder for autocrats to quell protests, as the dissenters can broadcast it around the world. The message to take from this technology exposes, shares and liberates all of us.

Why do they harm us? Maim us? Obviously they dislike our way of life, our freedoms, our opportunities our joys, our liberties and our freedom of religion, and they kill with no particular target. On September 11, the murders of World Trade Center employees and visitors took the lives of numerous nationalities, ethnic groups and religious followers.

As London's mayor, Ken Livingstone, said, "The London bombings were aimed at ordinary working class Londoners, black and white, Muslim and Christians, Hindu and Jew, young and old, it was indiscriminate slaughter."

How bittersweet that just the day before, they celebrated the selection of their city to host the Olympic Games, the very showcase of multiethnic excellence and talents.

In the days last week, I recalled a song by the great American composers, the Gershwin Brothers. The song appeared in the 1937 film, *A Damsel in Distress*. The song is by Americans, the movie and screenplay is a product of notable campy British writer, P.G. Wodehouse.

What a delightful combination of American and English artists. The song is *A Foggy Day in London Town*. I thought it was appropriate and I will give it this afternoon in recognition of the pain that they feel in London. "A foggy day in London Town had me low,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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had me down. I viewed the morning with much alarm, the British Museum, had lost its charm. How long I wondered could this thing last, but the age of miracles had not passed. For suddenly, I saw you there, and through foggy London Town, the sun was shining everywhere."

I offer to you, our ally, our partner, our friend, as long as you in England and we in the United States continue to show strength and resolve against enemies of our peace and prosperity and our freedom, both on our soil, and in foggy London Town, and lands of all people, the sun is shining and will be shining everywhere.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Often when we are called to prayer, Lord, we bow our heads and close our eyes. We do this out of reverence and close the windows of this world to focus our attention on the spiritual, which cannot be seen.

But when Your spirit quickens our spirit within, Your holiness penetrates our being and illumines everything around us. For this reason, prayer is truly an awakening. Our minds and hearts are lifted and we become more aware of sin and grace within us and around us.

Prayer itself helps us face the tasks of the day and the problems to be solved with new determination and the gift of creation of new possibilities. Therefore, send Your spirit of prayer upon the House of Representatives today, this week, and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OFFICER ANDREW PHILLIPS

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marietta police officer Andrew Phillips. On July 13 he received the National Public Safety Medal of Valor from President Bush at a White House ceremony. Officer Phillips is the first officer from Georgia to receive the award, the Nation's highest accolade for bravery.

The award was created by the U.S. Justice Department, and it honors public safety workers who show exceptional courage in the line of duty.

Officer Phillips was recognized for saving the lives of two fellow officers last year after they were shot upon entering a house with a search warrant. Instead of retreating, Phillips returned gunfire until the man threw down his weapon and surrendered.

As an officer on the Narcotics Task Force, Officer Phillips is the epitome of the kind of courageous and valiant men and women we want on our police forces. I thank him for going to work every day and putting his life on the line for all of us. It is because of his type of heroic actions that we all feel protected in our communities.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to say Officer Phillips is from Georgia's Sixth District. He is a leader in our community, and I am thrilled to honor his service and his accomplishments. Congratulations, Officer Phillips.

THE PEOPLE OF ALEXANDER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA HAVE PLENTY TO CELEBRATE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Paragon Films, Incorporated, which is scheduled to open a new 40,000-square foot manufacturing facility in Alexander County, North Carolina, in October.

The company, which is the sixth largest manufacturer of stretch film products in America, will create 25 new jobs during its first 2 years of operation and will invest \$10 million into the county. Paragon Films predicts that within 8 to 10 years it will produce \$100 million in revenue and employ 150 people.

Madam Speaker, I am confident that Paragon Films is making a wise investment and am pleased they are bringing a high-quality company with great ca-

reer opportunities to the hard-working people in Alexander County.

I am also impressed by the values of this company. Paragon plans to establish a Paragon for Christ trust fund shortly after opening to help reach those who are in need. The company's president and CEO, Mike Baab, said, "We take care of people. If your focus is on the almighty dollar, then you lose sight of the people."

Madam Speaker, the people of Alexander County have plenty to celebrate.

PASSING CAFTA IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, this morning I heard on National Public Radio a report of a survey, a bipartisan survey, that was conducted in which people were saying that while they feel good about their own economic situation, they are less optimistic about the overall economy.

I think it is very important for us to note that the underlying figures that we have, as well as empirical evidence, show that we have a very strong, bold, and dynamic economy that has been brought about, in large part, due to the tax cuts proposed by President Bush and that we in this Republican Congress have implemented.

We now have an unemployment rate of 5 percent, which is lower than the average for the 1970s, the 1980s, and the 1990s; a 3.8 percent gross domestic product growth, and 146,000 jobs created in the last month. That is a number that has been continuing to grow, and we need to recognize that it has been our policies that have created that.

We have on the horizon a very important issue in the coming days that we are going to be voting on, and that is a market-opening opportunity for us with passage of the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

The world has access to the U.S. consumer market, Madam Speaker, and unfortunately, because of the tariff structure, and a tariff is a tax, we are unable to sell into other parts of the world. Ninety-four percent of the world's consumers are outside of our border.

We need to do everything we can to pass the CAFTA so that we, immediately upon implementation of it, will see 80 percent of our products get into these Central American countries tariff-free. It is the right thing for the American consumer, and it is the right thing for political stability in this hemisphere.

SOUTHWESTERN BREEDS FUTURE LEADERS

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)